



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Tulsa District

# TULSA

## DISTRICT RECORD

January/February 1999  
Vol. 22, No. 1

## **Tulsa hosts 200+ SWD rangers representing Fort Worth, Galveston, Little Rock, and Tulsa Districts**



*Tulsa District played host to the Southwestern Division's park rangers during the annual SWD Ranger Conference, Feb. 9-11. Brig. Gen. Edwin Arnold, SWD Commander, Col. Flor, and Tulsa Mayor Susan Savage were keynote speakers during the event. See page 5 for a wrap-up of the conference.*

## Commander's Column

I just finished reviewing and approving the results of the Customer Care Employee for the First Quarter award. Two employees made the final selection: **Dennis Thomas** (PPMD), and **Guy Green** (E&C). Indeed they deserve the honor. However, I must mention the other nominations because they too have done things that are noteworthy: **Phyllis Sands** (Robert S. Kerr), **Pam Kelly** (Real Estate), **Kris Graves** (IMO), **Dave Stewart** (Oologah), and **Gene Lilly** (PER). Note that at least two of the nominations are for service to customers within the District. Indeed, we have several employees and sections whose main duties involve providing service to the rest of the organization. Let us not overlook the effort of the employees who serve so we can better do our work.

The biggest District-level event since I last wrote a column was the Holiday Update/Family Christmas Event. I personally received numerous thanks and compliments for the way we conducted the event and the decorating job. I must confess that my part was merely to show up. The credit for organizing, decorating and conducting the event belongs to **Mike Ware** and his committee from PER. What made the event truly successful was the high participation rate. Of course, Santa, his two elves, and the kids were the real stars of the event.

Another significant event since the last TDR, was the Martin Luther King parade. About thirty employees from the district helped organize, decorate the float, and march in the parade. Thousands lined the parade route and got to see our float — a Boston whaler on a trailer appropriately decorated to promote water safety. **Mike Love** and members of the Black Employee Program Committee did a great job promoting the District. Note that this event and the Christmas party were assisted by money raised by the Civilian Recreation Activity Committee headed by **Joanne Hensley**.

My quest to visit all the area offices continued when I spent the day at Fort Gibson and Tenkiller Lake. My thanks to **Jack Armstrong** and crew for the hospitality and a most interesting and educational tour. Seven down and five to go, then the cycle starts over again. On the resident engineer office side, I've started the cycle over.



**Col. Leonardo Flor**

Let me end by emphasizing an important process in any organization — information flow. Note the two root words: “in” and “form.” Indeed, it is impossible to keep any organization together without information. The information has to flow in at least three directions: down, up and across. Supervisors must keep their subordinates informed; employees must provide feedback to how things are going; sections, branches and divisions must talk with other sections, branches and divisions. And the information must be accurate. Lastly, don't over rely on the computer and e-mail. Much information can indeed be transferred in written form. But often, the most valuable information comes across through eye contact, facial expression, body language and vocal inflection.

This is why I'll keep coming around to visit you where you work. I need information from you just as much as you need information from me.

Tulsa District leads the way. Essayons!

— **Col. Flor**



**During Brig. Gen. Edwin Arnold's visit to the District for budget preparations on Jan. 27, eight Tulsa District employees received special recognitions. Billy Banks, Pete Gibson, and Lori Hunninghake received Certificates of Appreciation. Diane Cianci, Max Fowler, Roger Eakle, and Marc Chester received recognition for their recovery work on Hurricane Bonnie. Julie McCollough received a Commander's Award. Pictured above are (back row, left to right) Banks, PPMD; Gibson, Fowler, Eakle, and Chester, OD; (front row, left to right) Brig. Gen. Arnold, McCollough, IR, Hunninghake, PPMD, Cianci, CT, and Col. Flor.**

### Tulsa District Record

Contributions of articles, graphics and photographs are encouraged. All manuscripts are subject to editing and rewriting and are due in the Public Affairs Office by the first of each even-numbered month of the year (February, April, June, August, October, and November).

The **Tulsa District Record** is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-81. Contents are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or Tulsa District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is published bi-monthly using offset lithography. Printed circulation: 1,500.

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# Partnership yields immediate results for Tinker AFB Civil Engineering and Tulsa District

By Dean Holt, Tinker AFB Deputy Base Civil Engineer,  
Stan Rankin, C.H. Guernsey & Company Senior Vice President  
John Roberts, Tulsa District Deputy for Project Management

On December 2, 1998, senior representatives of Tinker Air Force Base's Civil Engineering and Tulsa District signed a partnering agreement committing the two organizations to "work together as a team with trust, respect and honesty". Little did they know at the time how soon that commitment would be tested.

The Tinker BCE is competing in an A-76 review of the base civil engineering workload. Under the A-76 study process, the identified workload that the government is currently performing is competed with the private sector through the Request For Proposal process. Deadline for revised submittals was December 17, 1998.

The Tinker BCE responded to the solicitation, with the goal of being selected as the successful bidder. The BCE organization developed a Most Efficient Organization structure, identifying initiatives and innovations that would streamline its organization and make its proposed organization the best value for the government. The BCE submitted its initial proposal to the Technical Evaluation Team, followed by an oral presentation on December 3, 1998. Feedback from the evaluation team revealed that the BCE needed to significantly expand its proposal to be competitive to the requirements provided in the 1000+ page solicitation.

The requirements permitted up to a 200-page proposal to respond to the four evaluation factors – Manpower, Program Management, Quality Control and Subcontracting Support Capability. The burning question was how to get a quality proposal prepared in time to meet the December 17 deadline.

Dean Holt, the Deputy Base Civil Engineer, called John Roberts, District DPM, on Friday, December 4 (two days after the partnering meeting) and asked for ideas on how such a monumental task could be performed in less than two weeks. After holding a district "think tank" meeting, Roberts offered several options. On Monday, December 7, Holt requested that his BCE organization, Tulsa District, and an Architect-Engineer firm team be put together to prepare a proposal.

John Wagner, the District marketing coordinator, was the first on the scene Tuesday, December 8, and began working to determine the resources needed to prepare the proposal. By Thursday afternoon, December 10, a contract was in place with C.H. Guernsey & Company to join the BCE and Tulsa District in preparing the proposal and with Lore International to provide training to the team in proposal writing. Team members met on Saturday to finalize the outline for the proposal and break into writing teams for different sections of the proposal. The proposal rewrite was started from scratch Sunday morning, completed and printed Wednesday night, and submitted on time Thursday morning. Team members worked twelve to seventeen hours per day, except for Holt and Miles who often continued to review documents after everyone else retired for the night.

Tulsa District's addition to the proposal writing team, in addition to Wagner, were Roberts, Jimmy Inman of Military Design Section, and Lori Hunninghake of PPMD. Inman's assistance was requested at 4:30 p.m. on Friday and he reported for duty at Tinker on Saturday morning. Hunninghake's assistance was requested Sunday morning and she arrived Sunday afternoon.

Key team members from Tinker AFB included Holt, LTC Frank Miles (772<sup>nd</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron Commander), Norm Currier (Design Section Chief), Ken Prewett, Kevin Loudermilk, Rick Creed, Paul Lowery and 1LT Ben Morgan. Guernsey's representatives included Stan Rankin (Sr. Vice President), Robert Day (Tulsa Office Manager), Kathy Howery (Tulsa Office Marketing Coordinator), COL(R) Bob Bartlow (former BCE Commander), Cindy Baker, Mike Knapp, Rob Haskins, Jim Slade, and Gayle Cox.

The Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center has requested the authority to conduct a reduction in force in the event the government is not the successful bidder in the A-76 competition. If the government wins the work, cuts to the civilian work force will be fewer, as civil engineers will move into the Most Efficient Organization structure. The outcome of the contract and bid process will not be known until February 1999. If the government loses the bid, the successful bidder is scheduled to assume the work October 1, 1999.

Did the partnering meeting make a difference? Definitely. Had we not just committed to teamwork, Holt would not have even called the district for assistance. And, without the commitment, the district might not have responded with the same enthusiasm and level of effort.

Another key factor was the existing professional relationships that had previously been established through active participation in the Society of Professional Engineers. The proposal writing team could have been mistaken for a SAME reunion. Holt, Morgan, Rankin, Day, Howery, Bartlow, Cox, Roberts, and Hunninghake all had significant experience working together on various committees for the Tulsa and Oklahoma City Posts for several years. All enjoyed the opportunity to jump in and work together on yet another project.

"I've often said that all of Guernsey's success in the Defense industry can be tracked back to Tinker AFB and the Tulsa District Corps of Engineers. It came totally natural to work side-by-side with these agencies on this important assignment," said Rankin.

The December 1 and 2 partnering meeting came as a result of a Customer Care Survey which was not particularly flattering, indicating that there was significant room for improvement. The partnering charter identified several actions that will be worked on by the BCE and District staffs, including reducing the amount of time it takes to design and construct a project, making the projects more maintainable, involving A-Es in construction and maintenance issues, and improving the warranty program.

See Tinker on page 4



# Winter months provide excellent wildlife recreation opportunities at Tulsa District lakes

By Everett Laney, Biologist, OD

In the midst of the winter season, Tulsa District parks are all but deserted. Some parks have been locked up and the facilities have been winterized. Now is the time for the real outdoor recreational users. We have shared and tolerated the summer visitors long enough. Now we have it all to ourselves. We are the true outdoor users, because we truly appreciate the outdoors. We are the wildlife recreationalists.

A 1996 survey just released by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service reports that 40% of all adults spent \$101 billion on wildlife related recreational activities nationwide. Nearly 6.7 million residents in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas, 16 years old and older, engaged in fishing, hunting, or wildlife-watching activities. These visitors spent \$8.63 billion on wildlife associated recreation. The table below provides a breakdown for each state. With the Tulsa District lakes providing over 25 million visitors and over 300 million visitor hours in 1996 it's safe to say that we are a major contributor to the states' outdoor recreational opportunities and the states' economies.

The Tulsa District provides nearly 1.2 million acres of land and water to the public for these types of outdoor recreational activities. For example, in Oklahoma there are over 730,000 surface acres of water, including farm ponds. The Tulsa District provides use of over 465,000 of those surface acres to the public. That's 64% of the water in Oklahoma. This would account for over \$314 million in Oklahoma from fishing on Tulsa District lakes. We also provide over 674,000 acres of land for hunting and non-hunting wildlife related recreation. This gives those of us that truly appreciate the outdoors ample opportunity to get out and enjoy the real pleasures of nature. We are less demanding, yet viable, recreational users who provides a lot of support to the natural resources and the economy.

So just because it's winter, don't think there is nothing to do out there. Go enjoy nature in our parks. Do like many of us and spend some hours sitting in a tree. Watch the sun rise and set. See how the animals go through their day. Take some home for dinner. Get outdoors for some wildlife recreation and you will better understand the re-creation aspects of recreation.

## USFWS Survey Results

	<u>Oklahoma</u>	<u>Kansas</u>	<u>Texas</u>
Residents engaging in fishing, hunting and other wildlife related activities	1.2 million	.79 million	4.7 million
Resident & non-resident days fishing	14.67 million	6.36 million	51.33 million
Resident & non-resident days hunting	5.61 million	3.95 million	17.05 million
Resident & non-resident days spent on wildlife watching activities	4.9 million	3 million	14.8 million
Dollars spent on wildlife associated recreation	\$1.3 billion	\$.83 billion	\$6.5 billion

## Tinker

Between the formal partnering meeting and the teamwork to prepare the proposal, the district is on track to create yet another delighted customer.

"The magnitude, enthusiasm, and talent of the people which provided the support to assist in the rewrite was awesome, Holt said. "To be in the presence of such talent was a humbling experience. Truly without the teaming effort of the Tulsa District, C.H. Guernsey & Co., and base personnel, the deadline would not have been met with the superb quality of the revised proposal that resulted."

**Visit Tulsa District's  
web site**

**<http://www.swt.usace.army.mil>**

# More than 200 division park rangers meet in Tulsa for annual conference

Over 200 park rangers from lakes within the Southwestern Division met in Tulsa, Feb. 9-11, for their annual conference. The theme of this year's conference was "Land and Water Stewardship in the Southwest."

The conference began with opening remarks provided by Tulsa Commander, Col. Flor, Southwestern Division commander Brig. Gen. Edwin Arnold, and Tulsa Mayor Susan Savage.



***Above, left to right, Brig. Gen. Arnold, Col. Flor, and Tulsa Mayor Susan Savage share insights prior to giving their remarks, as SWD rangers, below, prepare for the opening of the seminar.***

Col. Flor applauded the rangers for exemplifying "regional co-operation" and praised their accomplishments of providing "One Vision, One Corps."

Mayor Savage welcomed the rangers to Tulsa and emphasized the productive partnership the City of Tulsa has with the Corps of Engineers on such efforts as Mingo Creek flood control project and renovating brownfields, old abandoned manufacturing sites that have significant environmental concerns.

Brig. Gen. Arnold stressed that the Southwestern Division is a "single entity, not four different parts." He complimented those attending for sharing ideas and building toward future experiences.

"This sharing of ideas is integral to the Chief's vision of **One Corps Standard**," he said.

Brig. Gen. Arnold further elaborated on the Chief's vision by challenging the rangers to delight customers, serve the nation, and improve business practices. He also stressed that safety at recreation areas for users and rangers must be maintained.

Other speakers during the opening session of the conference included Darrell Lewis, chief of Natural Resources Management Branch, and Lt. Col. Richard L. Miller, provost marshal with the Security and Law Enforcement Office. Both serve at Headquarters, USACE.

The rangers shared challenges and successes on a variety of topics including ranger safety, the National Recreation Reservation Service implementation, career development, gang units, volunteers, budget processes, shoreline management, and the Operations and Maintenance Business Information Link.

Conference attendees also participated in training entitled "Verbal Judo." The course teaches rangers how to diffuse hostile situations by using effective communication.





## Congratulations

The following Tulsa District employees recently received awards for adopted suggestions through the Army Ideas for Excellence Program:

**William J. Brady** of the Texoma Powerhouse was awarded \$200 for his suggestion which provided a solution to low dissolved oxygen in the water at the Dension Powerplant as well as at other reservoirs. Brady also was awarded \$100 for his suggestion to exchange power gates with flood gates at the Texoma Powerhouse. This procedure will be done each year at the same time as normal maintenance.

**Kirt Curell, Darvin McClellan, and Jonathan Polk** of Fort Gibson Project Office each were awarded \$50 for their suggestion to consolidate all Tulsa District public hunting maps into one atlas.

**Marcus Ware** of the Skiatook Project Office was awarded \$50 for his suggestion to add the statement "Don't forget to wear your lifejacket — it can save your day!" onto the self-deposit envelopes issued with user permits at Corps parks.

**Clayton Macom**, son of **Claudine Brandon** of the Eufaula Area Office, won the overall bullriding competition at the International Finals Rodeo held in January in Oklahoma City.

**Kathy Molony**, former Tulsa District employee, recently was named **Team Player of the Month** at the Finance Center in Millington, Tenn.

## Dennis Thomas, Guy Green named Customer Care Employees for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 1999

Dennis Thomas of the Military & Environmental Branch of PPMD, and Guy Green, of the HTRW Design Center in EC, have been named Customer Care Employees for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1999.

Both were nominated for their efforts in the successful and aggressive environmental cleanup work at Reese Air Force Base in Texas.

In a letter to Col. Flor from Timothy D. Brechen, BRAC Environmental Coordinator at Reese Air Force Base, Thomas and Green were lauded for their "outstanding support" in managing the environmental closure activities at the base.

## Family Additions

**Brittany Kay Engelke**, born Dec. 2 — daughter of Andrea and Greg Engelke, and granddaughter of Janice and **Ed Engelke**. Ed works as a public affairs specialist in PA.



**Joshua David Waldie**, born Dec. 6 — son of Susan and **Jeff Waldie**. Jeff works as an environmental engineer in EC.

**Wesley Jack Fowler**, born Dec. 15 — son of Cindy and Marshall Fowler, and grandson of Edna and **Max Fowler**. Max works as an environmental specialist in OD-Eufaula.

**Kara Amanda Myers**, born Dec. 22 — daughter of Julie and Kirk Myers, and granddaughter of **Gina Arteche**. Gina works as a secretary in EC.

**Jacquelyn Michelle Hayes**, born Dec. 31 — daughter of Natalie and Jason Hayes, and granddaughter of **Jackie Wilfong**. Jackie works as a reports clerk in LO.

**Alex Chester Griffith**, born Jan. 13 — son of Michelle and Anthony Griffith, and grandson of Janice and **Ed Engelke**. Ed works as a public affairs specialist in PA.

## Condolences

To the family and friends of **Imo Plummer**, Tulsa District retiree, who died Nov. 10.

To **Richard Stagner**, OD, and his family on the death of his mother, **Sarah Stagner**, who died Nov. 10.

To **Preston Hunter**, OD — Skiatook, and his family on the death of his father who died Dec. 14.

To **Thomas Yahola**, Tulsa District retiree, and his family, on the death of his mother, **Bertha Yahola**, who died Jan. 11.

To **Redia Hill** and **Bob Hill**, (PPMD and EC, respectively), and their family on the death of Redia's father, **W.L. Moore**, who died Jan. 15.

To **Sherman Jones**, OD -- Keystone, and his family on the death of his mother-in-law, **Audrey Matheny**, who died Jan. 25.

To **John Reeves**, OD -- Robert S. Kerr, and his family on the death of his grandmother, **Ora James**, who died Jan. 27.

To the family and friends of **William A. Ferrell**, retired Tulsa District realty appraiser, who died Jan. 29, in Stillwater, Okla.

To **Gil Green**, OD -- Webbers Falls, and his family on the death of his wife, **Julie**, who died Feb. 4.

To **Cathey Williams**, OD, and her family on the death of her mother, **Margaret Ann Williams**, who died Feb. 5.

To **Bruce Peck**, Defense Automated Printing Service, and his family on the death of his mother who died Feb. 5.



# Personnel Notes

## October

### Hello

Joyce E. O'Shea, OD — Marion

### Goodbye

Kerry I. McCalman, OD

Kristopher K. Patton, OD — Texoma

David M. Whiten, IM

### Promotions

Bill Cheatham, IM

John Weatherly, CT

## November

### Hello

Kerry Dee Ingram, EC

### Goodbye

None for November

### Promotions

William J. Brady, OD — Texoma

Johnny C. Bray, OD — Eufaula

Perry L. Crupper, OD — Fort Gibson

Debbie G. Gibbs, PPMD

R. C. Green, Jr., OD — Hugo

Christopher D. Keeler, OD — Hugo

Jeffrey G. Lacquement, EC

Larry A. Lawless, OD — Robert S Kerr

Davey G. Muret, OD — Fort Gibson

Samuel L. Patterson, OD — Keystone

Leann C. Pearce, RE

Joe L. Rea, OD — Eufaula

Deborah K. Reid, IM

Phyllis L. Sands, OD — Robert S. Kerr

Glenn R. Searce, OD — Robert S Kerr

Mitzi A. Sturdevant, EC — Altus

## December

### Hello

None in December

### Goodbye

Edward A. Timm, EC — Central Oklahoma

Area Office

### Promotions

Wanda L. Blackwell, EC

Gary D. Coward, OD — Robert S. Kerr

Mary J. Frye, PER

Jacque Lattie, EC

Melonie Leonard, EC

Kenneth R. Reznicek, OD — Marion

Carol L. Roberts, PPMD

Walter Workman, Jr., OD — Oologah

## January

### Hello

Christopher W. Drews, OD — R.S. Kerr

Velma D. Knight, EC

### Goodbye

Rosemary E. Capshaw, EO

Byron C. Dean, EC

James B. Klutts, OD — Chloride Control

Project Office

### Promotions

John R. Anthony, OD — Texoma

Patrick S. Beard, EC

Martha A. Clingerman, OC

Larry L. Flenniken, IM

LeVience Hearne-Fleming, PER

Margaret A. Johanning, PER

John A. Marnell, OD

Edward L. Mattioda, EC

Penni A. Walker, EC

Pamela G. Wellman, OC

Cheryl A. Wickson, CT

Wayne M. Zimmerman, OD — Fall River

## Texoma employees "change" their Christmas giving in 1998

### By

### Chris Lynch

### Texoma Project Office

In years past, the Texoma employees have adopted 6-8 families to provide for at Christmas. This has involved collecting a donation from each employee of \$20, then buying food, and toys for the children of each family. The merchants in the Texoma area were also contacted and some gave cash donations and others gave food items.

This year the employees at Texoma chose to take a different approach. With fewer employees this year, than in the past, and less time to devote to the effort, we chose to take up the \$20 cash donations, but instead of purchasing food and toys, we made a donation to four area agencies that help the needy. Along with the help of some of our local marina operators who donated \$800, we collected \$1,400. This allowed us to make donations of \$350 each to the Denison Lions Club, The Grayson County, Texas Family Shel-

ter, Toys for Tots, Durant, Okla. and the Crisis Control Center of Durant, Okla.

These groups are each involved with

helping give food, shelter and counseling to 500 - 1,000 persons each year.



**Chris Lynch (left) and Bill Bell (right) present Texoma Project Office's donation to a representative from the Durant Crisis Control Center.**

# Asbestos demonstration project at Fort Sill -- a lesson in success

by  
**Burl Ragland, P.E.**  
Programs & Project Management Division

Planning, programming, and good management on the part of the Tulsa District's Fort Sill Team was rewarded when the FY 99 Family Housing Project was approved for Fort Sill. This project would upgrade some 328 family housing units for the soldiers at Fort Sill. This project was a win-win for the soldier, the Fort Sill Director for Public Works, and the Corps of Engineers, who would have the opportunity to develop the plans and specifications for this project.

Tulsa District had recently completed a similar housing project and was able to bring an experienced team to the project. More importantly, the lessons learned from the previous project should allow for a better final product for the soldier.

One of the big lessons learned dealt with the removal of strips of sheet rock in the walls of the houses in order to reach and replace the electrical wiring in the rooms. The walls had received a thin layer of sizing material that is typically used to prepare sheet rock walls for painting. The problem that arose was that the material contained asbestos. The previous housing project had the same coating material and the cost of removing the strips of sheet rock, by modification, with the asbestos containing material was approximately \$500,00 for 60 units. The cost of the asbestos had not been part of the programmed cost for the project and between the time the project was first authorized until final design, the programmed amount for the project was reduced by \$1,000,000. Our estimated cost to remove the sheet rock with the asbestos containing material coating under current regulations was \$950,000. We had a challenge to get the best product for the soldier and stay within the budget.

Tulsa District has been very successful in developing and carrying out demonstration projects dealing with asbestos. We have worked very closely with the Environmental Protection Agency on several projects dealing with non-friable asbestos. Those efforts led to EPA and state regulators making numerous rule changes for removing and handling non-friable asbestos products. This project seemed like another chance to determine if there is a better way for the workers, the environment, and the budget. A meeting was held with Ron Barnett, Fort Sill's Director of Environmental Quality, Ed Theissen, Chief of Fort Sill's Housing Division, and Burl Ragland, Tulsa District Project Manager, to develop a plan for a demonstration project on this project.

Fort Sill's DEQ would provide the asbestos workers, prepare the rooms, and take the samples; its DPW Housing Division would coordinate the project with the residents and provide the houses plus repair the walls once the testing was complete. The Corps would pay for the analysis of the samples, develop the Protocol, coordinate with all the State and Federal Regulators, plus develop the final report. (Ragland would be the lead for this program.)



***During the demonstration project, all units were handled as normal abatement projects.***

The initial protocol was a local effort but the final protocol was the cooperative effort of **Susan Sepata**, EPA, and Ragland. EPA approved the document and provided a detailed plan that would be followed to determine if a danger to workers or the environment would result when removing the sheet rock with the asbestos containing sizing material using standard construction practices. The selection of the houses was to be made at random in that the houses would be tested, as they become vacant. Ron Means of Fort Sill's Family Housing coordinated this effort. If the house tested positive for asbestos in the sizing material, then the house would remain vacant and be used in the testing program.

A typical test would involve several steps. During the testing operations, the site was treated as an asbestos removal operation, with full sampling of the area, the affiliated areas, and the personnel. Each area had all non-affected walls, ceiling, and floor sealed with poly sheeting. Poly sheeting was used over the doors and windows to provide critical bearers to allow for a negative pressure area to be established. Monitoring devices were within the confined space, outside the confined space and on the worker. **Doug Brown** performed the actual removal and **Jackie Myers** took the samples and monitored the site. On site, **Rick Smith** and Ragland performed monitoring.

To simulate the worst condition and/or abuse situation, 6-inch sections of the wall were sawed out and removed. This operation was repeated until two walls (6 foot by 12 foot, usually) had the sheet rock removed. This removal work at each house was completed in a single 8-hour workday. The testing occurred between February and August of 1998. Unfortunately, the continuous cutting operation of the gypsum wallboard (sheet rock) created a high level of dust which clogged a large number of the work area samples. For this reason, the number of test houses had to be increased from 9 to 14 to obtain the 95% confidence level for the testing program. Smith, **Penni Walker**, and Ragland developed the report covering the research.



The findings from all 14 family housing units indicated there is not a danger from asbestos to the environment, to the worker, or to the general public if the sizing material on the sheet rock were to be handled by standard/normal demolition practices. The report provides the results of this research and substantiates the hypothesis that the speckle layer does not represent a hazard to the worker. This report has been sent to the state regulators, EPA, and OSHA. Based upon this report, the Federal OSHA Office in Oklahoma City granted a Negative Exposure Assessment for workers for this project. This saved the estimated \$950,000 for the project. More importantly, this research indicates that the requirement for requiring removal of the sizing material containing asbestos, as friable asbestos, should be questioned. This could impact all future projects where this sizing material was used on sheet rock walls.

Part of the success for this project had to be associated with the high interest in this project by the contractors. There were 250 plan holders for this project. Regardless, this project was a win-win for the soldier, the environment, and the taxpayers. There are still issues to be resolved. The report is in the hands of the regulators and such data has been influential in getting regulations updated based upon research. More win-win areas may exist for all of us from this effort.



***Above: Samples were collected outside the work area and at both the intake and exhaust of the negative air machine.***

***Below: Workers collected samples outside the work area at both the intake and exhaust of the negative air machine.***



# Status of TD Zebra Mussel Infestation

By

Everett Laney, Biologist, OD

Since the Tulsa District first discovered Zebra Mussels in the navigation system in 1993 we have feared the threat of them being transported to one of the inland lakes. To date there have been no confirmed sightings but we have now had three boats that have been intercepted at two lakes that were carrying Zebra Mussels.

The first was a 27-foot boat being transferred to the Highway 9 Landing Marina on Eufaula Lake from the Cumberland Cove Marina on R.S. Kerr Reservoir, approximately 50 miles away, on May 15, 1997. Fortunately, it had been dry-docked all winter and the mussels were dead on arrival.

The second boat was also discovered at Highway 9 Landing Marina on Eufaula Lake, in July of 1998. The 33-foot boat had been transported from the Ohio River and had been out of the water for 10 days. The marina owner said the mussels were six

inches deep on the hull and he removed two 55 gallon barrels of mussels with a high-pressure sprayer.

The third boat was discovered Oct. 19, 1998 at Willow Park Marina on Grand Lake. The 40-foot boat had been on the road for five days from Lake Michigan. The marina personnel sprayed the Zebra Mussels with chlorine after discovering them and did not launch the boat for several more days. Those mussels were also removed with a high-pressure sprayer before the boat was allowed to be launched.

In order to try to get a better feel for what kind of overland traffic the district gets, **Stan Spirlock**, an outdoor recreation planner in OD, downloaded some of the camping fee records from six lakes (Fort Gibson, Tenkiller, Eufaula, Skiatook, Oologah, and Kaw). The six lakes total 194,990 surface acres of water and received 7,127,263 visitors during the March through September 1998 summer recreation season.

The six lakes had visitors from 48 other states (no vehicles were from Hawaii). Eighteen of those states were known to have Zebra Mussels. There were 1,427 visitors to the six lakes from infested states. Arkansas and Missouri represented 78% of those visitors with 1,117. The Great Lakes states, which have some of the biggest Zebra Mussel problems, provided 13% with 182 visitors. Of those visitors from out-of-state, 39% to 50% were from infested states.

Although these visitors represent an insignificant percent of the total number of visitors to the six lakes, they are infestation opportunities. Unknowns are: What portion of those potential infestation opportunities were boaters?

How many actually came from infested waterbodies, and how long ago?

The numbers do, however, indicate that there is a potential threat of overland infestations from out of state visitors to the Tulsa District lakes.

## Tulsa District Visitors from Zebra Mussel Infested States

(March through September 1998)

	FortGibson	Skiatook	Kaw	Oologah	Eufaula	Tenkiller
<u>State</u>						
Alabama	6	1	3	0	8	6
Arkansas	14	9	9	27	165	712
Illinois	3	3	7	11	14	8
Indiana	5	1	1	7	6	4
Iowa	5	1	3	5	13	5
Kentucky	2	0	2	4	0	0
Louisiana	5	1	4	4	9	2
Michigan	3	0	2	6	17	6
Minnesota	1	1	0	1	6	1
Mississippi	2	2	2	1	5	1
Missouri	13	9	23	41	65	30
New York	1	0	2	5	6	0
Ohio	0	2	5	5	5	3
Pennsylvania	0	1	4	3	6	2
Tennessee	1	2	2	4	7	7
Vermont	0	0	0	0	1	1
West Virginia	0	0	0	0	1	0
Wisconsin	1	1	2	5	5	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>792</b>
Total Other States	28	27	35	39	41	35
<b>Infested States</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>% of Infested States</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>43%</b>

# Texoma hosts first Non-Ambulatory hunt

Story and Photo by Allen Ryan  
Texoma Project Office

Texoma Project hosted their first annual Non-Ambulatory Deer Hunt on the weekend of November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The hunt took place in the Burns Run Area just north of the Denison Dam. The Burns Run Area is a 355-acre unit open to the public for deer hunting by archery only. This area was closed for the weekend in order to accommodate the non-ambulatory hunters.

Texoma rangers set up ground blinds in various locations within the hunting area. The blinds were placed in areas based upon the amount of deer activity observed and the proximity to food plot areas.

A pre-hunt orientation was conducted on Friday evening at the East Burns Run Group Shelter. The orientation consisted of a briefing on hunter safety issues, an explanation of the hunting area, and a hot dog cookout. The orientation was coordinated and conducted by Texoma rangers **Mark Boling** and **Allen Ryan**.

On Saturday evening, Michael Hynd was set up at his blind location near the end of a cove, overlooking an area planted in millet. Just before sunset, Hynd observed two bucks approaching the area and was able to successfully harvest the larger of the



***Pictured are Michael Hynd (left) and his brother-in-law Paul Lambring (right), who served as his assistant during the hunt.***

two. The buck had an impressive eleven point rack with a 19 inch spread (see photo). Hynd stated that it was the largest buck he had ever taken and that he planned on having it mounted.

This special hunt was a combined group effort by the entire Texoma ranger staff: **Chris Lynch, Jim Vandergriff, Mike Wingfield, Mark Boling, Allen Ryan, Kris Patton, Dwaine McBee, Phil Newton, Brian Osberghaus, Cindy Buchanan, Mike Buchanan, and Ron Crank.**

## Blood: to give or not to give . . . and, if so, to whom?

By **Helen Williams**  
**Tulsa District Wellness Committee**

Tulsa District's Employee Wellness Committee recently met separately with representatives from the Southwest Region American Red Cross and the Oklahoma Blood Institute. The purpose of the meetings was to give the two agencies an opportunity to explain their services and benefits.

After comparing the two programs, the Wellness Committee decided to continue the Corps' blood drives with the American Red Cross. The American Red Cross provides a variety of advance plans for blood donors. The following information was provided to the Wellness Committee.

### **Individual and Family Benefit Plan**

Individuals who successfully donate blood (whole blood or apheresis) through the American Red Cross are eligible to participate in the plan. This plan covers the individual donor as well as the donor's tax dependents. Coverage is good for a period of one year from the date of the individual's last successful donation.

### **Gift Benefit Plan**

Under this plan, donors who are eligible for the Individual and Family Benefit Plan may give their coverage to another person and his/her tax dependents. Donors must complete a "Gift Benefit Form" at the time of their donation, and may give one year of individual plan coverage to a designee.

### **Group Benefit Plan**

Under this plan, after an annual goal of 25% of its membership is set, all group members who donate are eligible for plan benefits. When yearly group donations reach or surpass the goal of 25%, all members of the group, regardless of their donation status, become eligible for plan benefits. For every donation over the 25% goal, the group receives one "credit." Credits are worth 20% financial reimbursement of one unit of whole blood or blood products. Credits may be "given" to any individual chosen by group members.

### **Sponsorship Benefit Plan**

This plan is ideal for groups unable to clearly define their membership and achieve a 25% yearly participation level. In this plan, all donors within the group are eligible for individual benefits. Additionally, the group is given a credit for each donation, which can then be "given" to the individual being sponsored by the group. One credit is worth up to 20% financial reimbursement of one unit of whole blood products. The amount of reimbursement is determined by the number of units used by the patient or the number of units donated on the patient's behalf, whichever is smaller. This plan covers an individual who is planning to enter the hospital, who is already in the hospital or who has used blood in the past 60 days. Up to 100 units per patient/per year are covered, including a maximum of 20 apheresis products.

These plans provide tangible benefits to donors in the event they or their families need blood transfusions. The plans also help defray the medical costs associated with a blood transfusion.



## From the Mailbox



To **Larry Hogue**, Chief, OD:

Thanks for taking the time to come by our new building. I am enclosing a photo of **Harry Duncan** and Rich Worstell, owner of Cedar Mills Resort and Lake Texoma's representative on the Lake Texoma Advisory Committee. The plaque was given from LTA as an expression of appreciation for the work, time, and effort Harry and the Corps contributes to making Lake Texoma a wonderful vacation destination.

Hope you and your family enjoys a wonderful holiday season and enjoys the best of 1999.

Sincerely,

**Ramona Clark**

Executive Director

Lake Texoma Association

Dec. 10, 1998

To **David Stewart**, Oologah Project Office:

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for taking part in the remarkable effort to contain and clean up the recent oil spill in the Verdigris River.

With your help, and a massive cooperative effort between local, state, and federal government officials, Farmland employees, our subcontractors and the community, we were able to implement a timely clean-up effort to minimize the impact on the environment and the communities along the Verdigris River.

I understand that the Army Corps of Engineers played an integral role in the effort to slow the progress of the spill by maintaining the water level in Oologah Lake and helping clean-up crews and equipment gain access to key areas along the river and lake.

Once again, thank you for your support and cooperation. I want to per



**Harry Duncan, Texoma project manager (right) is presented a plaque of appreciation from Rich Worstell, Lake Texoma Advisory Committee for his committment and dedication.**

sonally assure you that Farmland will continue our aggressive clean-up effort for as long as it takes to get the job done.

Sincerely,

**H.D. Cleberg**

President and Chief Executive Officer

**Farmland Industries**

Dec. 18, 1998

To **Rhonda Sallee** and **Marsha Howe**, Real Estate Division:

You two have been so special to Willie and I anytime you are here. You will always be welcome. Thanks for your caring and concern.

Give our thanks to Mr. Freeman (Richard Freeman, Chief, RE) and all the Corps of Engineers. Most of all the two of you.

Love and best wishes for a very special New Year,

**Willie and Wilma King**

Dec. 31, 1998

Editor's note: *Rhonda Sallee and Marsha Howe worked with the Kings on a land acquisition for Altus Air Force Base.*

## Upcoming events for the Tulsa District *Mark your calendars*

**March 17<sup>th</sup>** — Women's History Program at the Tulsa District Office

**April 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>** — Corporate Challenge in Tulsa

**May 31<sup>st</sup>** — Memorial Day Holiday, which also officially opens the summer recreation season at our lakes

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** — Mingo Creek Dedication & Celebration in Tulsa

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** — Corps Day Awards Ceremony and Picnic

**July 4<sup>th</sup>** — Independence Day Holiday

**September 6<sup>th</sup>** — Labor Day Holiday

**October 5<sup>th</sup>** — Retirees Barge Ride

*If you know of other events that need to be added to this upcoming events list, please contact Barbara Cravens in PA at ext. 7367.*